

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 577

By Henry

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Angelo Vic Varallo of Nashville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Mr. Angelo Vic Varallo; and

WHEREAS, a respected community leader and beloved teacher and coach, Mr. Varallo was an exemplary citizen and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a longtime resident of Nashville, Vic Varallo attended Holy Name Catholic School in East Nashville and Father Ryan High School, where he starred in football and basketball, winning a place on the All-Decade team of the 1940s; and

WHEREAS, receiving an athletic scholarship to Ole Miss, Mr. Varallo again excelled on the gridiron and in the gym. The outbreak of World War II would see the end of his playing days for the Rebels as he entered military service; and

WHEREAS, a member of this Nation's Greatest Generation, Vic Varallo served with distinction as a B-25 aerial gunner, part of a six-man crew, on forty-seven combat missions and was assigned to the 22nd Bomb Squadron of the 341st Bomb-Group; and

WHEREAS, seeing action in the China-Burma-India theatre of operations, Mr. Varallo was awarded the American Campaign Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal for his service; and

WHEREAS, returning home to Tennessee after the war, he enrolled at Middle Tennessee State University, where he once again starred on the football and basketball teams. Named MVP All-Conference, he proudly served as captain of the football team in addition to being elected Most Popular Senior and gaining inclusion to *Who's Who of American Colleges and Universities*; and

WHEREAS, recalled to active duty with the outbreak of the Korean Conflict, Vic Varallo once again served his country in its time of need, serving as a member of the 306th Air Base Group for a period of one year from 1950-1951; and

WHEREAS, after returning from Korea, Mr. Varallo began his career as an educator, teaching at Tom Joy Elementary School. In 1952, he accepted a position at East High School, where he would spend the next twenty-two years and become a much-beloved and legendary figure as both a teacher and a coach; and

WHEREAS, in addition to teaching physical education and co-op programs in distributive education, Vic Varallo also served as a coach for the football, basketball, and track teams. His dedication and training led East High's athletes to new heights as many received athletic scholarships to major universities across the country over the years; and

WHEREAS, a gifted track and field coach, Coach Varallo's name became synonymous with the two most elite track meets in the state, as he was instrumental in the operation of the Optimist Relays and established the Banner Relays along with Edgar Allen of the *Nashville Banner*; and

WHEREAS, under Coach Varallo's skillful guidance, the East High track team won both relays a number of times and captured back-to-back state championship track titles in 1959 and 1960. He also established, along with Jackie Ray Davis of Lipscomb High School, Girls Interscholastic Track and Field in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, ending his illustrious tenure at East High in 1974, Mr. Varallo would continue to teach in Nashville until the early 1990s, with stops at Pearl High School, Hillsboro High School, Dupont High School, Hunters Lane High School, and Overton High Schools; and

WHEREAS, a competitor and gifted athlete, Vic Varallo continued his athletic accomplishments into his adulthood as a champion water-skier, winning seven national ski jump championships and claiming a speed-skiing title with a run of eighty-nine miles per hour. He would also serve as a basketball official for thirty-nine years, during which he officiated three state basketball tournaments; and

WHEREAS, seeking to serve his community, in 1991, Vic Varallo was elected to the first of his two terms as a Councilman-at-Large for Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County. A champion of the little guy, he strongly supported public education and worked hard to assist his

constituents. Elected on the first ballot each time, he undoubtedly would have served additional terms if term limits has not been enacted; and

WHEREAS, active in business after his retirement, he purchased a farm near Carthage and raised goats and several crops for a number of years, in addition to working at his family's famous restaurant, Varallo's Chili Parlor, where he was often found behind the cash register greeting old friends, former students, and longtime customers; and

WHEREAS, no strangers to awards and accolades during his lifetime, Mr. Varallo was inducted into the Middle Tennessee State University Hall of Fame in 1983 and was elected to the TSSAA Hall of Fame in 2005; and

WHEREAS, preceded in death by his parents, J.B. Varallo, Sr. and Catherine Punaro Varallo, his sister, Aurelia Bundy, and his nephew, John Varallo, Angelo Vic Varallo is survived by his beloved wife, Sheila Diane Varallo, his step-daughter, Crystal (Bob) Ezell, his granddaughter, Kaley Ezell, his sister, Teresa Freeman, his brothers, Frank J.B. Varallo and John B. (Mary) Varallo, Jr., his aunt, Eva Reale Varallo, his nieces and nephews, Aurelia Collier, Karen Huff, Cathy Bratton, Jay Rains, John B. Varallo III, and Ricky Bundy, as well as a host of other dear relatives and good friends; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Varallo leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this truly exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Mr. Angelo Vic Varallo, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character, his extraordinary contributions to the people of Tennessee, and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Varallo.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.